

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion:	
State: <u>Nebraska</u>	Fiscal Year to which credit applies: <u>2015</u>
Overall Report <u>X</u> Two-parent Report <u> </u> (check one)	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? <u>X</u> yes <u> </u> no
PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005 (Complete this section for EACH change)	
1. Name of eligibility change: Solely State Funded Program	
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2006	
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: <p>Nebraska has implemented a solely state funded program for two-parent families and families where the adult or minor parent is incapacitated with a medically determinable physical, mental, or emotional impairment or who has significant barriers to participation in approved work activities. Exemptions include a person who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. has an illness or injury serious enough to temporarily prevent entry into employment or participating in another <i>Employment First</i> component activity for up to three months; 2. is incapacitated with a medically determinable physical or mental impairment which, by itself or in conjunction with age, prevents the individual from engaging in employment or participating in another <i>Employment First</i> component activity and which is expected to exist for a continuous period of at least three months; 3. a person age 65 or older; 4. a parent who is needed in the home on a continuous basis to provide care for a disabled family member living in the home who does not attend school on a full-time basis and no other appropriate member of the household is available to provide the needed care; 5. a victim of domestic violence and where participation in <i>Employment First</i> approved work activities would make it more difficult for the individual to escape violence, or unfairly penalize the individual, or would put the individual at risk of further domestic violence; 6. a single custodial parent who is unable to participate because s/he cannot obtain child care for his/her child age five or younger for one or more of the following reasons: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Unavailability of appropriate child care within a reasonable distance from the client's home or work site; b. Unavailability or unsuitability of informal child care by a relative or under other arrangements; or c. Unavailability of appropriate and affordable formal child care arrangements. <p>Eligibility requirements are identical to the TANF cash assistance program.</p>	

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4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form):

A monthly average of 983 cases were designated as participating in the Solely State Funded Program in FFY2014. These cases were removed from the Separate State Program (SSP) caseload, so they are no longer reported on the ACF-199.

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FY2014	-1002	-975	-973	-988	-987	-1026	-983	-962	-957	-950	-981	-1017
Monthly Average											-11801 /12	-983

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -983

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Date of Completion:**State:** Nebraska**Fiscal Year to which credit applies:** 2015

- 1. Name of eligibility change:** Standard of Need
- 2. Implementation date of eligibility change:** July 1, 2007, July 1, 2009, July 1, 2011, and July 1, 2013
- 3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:** Effective July 1, 2007, the Standard of Need was raised for all family sizes as a base measure for eligibility determination (\$681 for a family of three). The Maximum Payment Standard remained the same (\$364 for a family of three).

Effective July 1, 2009, the Standard of Need was raised for all family sizes as a base measure for eligibility determination (\$710 for a family of three). The Maximum Payment Standard remained the same (\$364 for a family of three)

Effective July 1, 2011, the Standard of Need was raised for all family sizes as a base measure for eligibility determination (\$740 for a family of three). The Maximum Payment Standard remained the same (\$364 for a family of three)

Effective July 1, 2013, the Standard of Need was raised for all family sizes as a base measure for eligibility determination (\$775 for a family of three). The Maximum Payment Standard remained the same (\$364 for a family of three)

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4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form)

The July 1, 2007 policy change contributed to the expansion of the ADC caseload by 54 cases per year. This approximated 2 cases per month. Once on assistance, these families were estimated to remain on for 27 months (2007 median length of time on assistance) beginning with the policy change on 7/1/2007.

The July 1, 2009 policy change contributed to the expansion of the ADC caseload by 12 cases per year. This approximated 2 cases per month. Once on assistance, these families were estimated to remain on for 6 months (2009 median length of time on assistance) beginning with the policy change on 7/1/2009.

The July 1, 2011 policy change contributed to the expansion of the ADC caseload by 16 cases per year. This approximated 2 cases per month. Once on assistance, these families were estimated to remain on for 8 months (2011 median length of time on assistance) beginning with the policy change on 7/1/2011.

The July 1, 2013 policy change contributed to the expansion of the ADC caseload by 14 cases per year. This approximated 2 cases per month. Once on assistance, these families were estimated to remain on for 7 months (2013 median length of time on assistance) beginning with the policy change on 7/1/2013.

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FY2007	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	6
FY2008	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
FY2009	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	52	56	60
FY2010	62	64	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66
FY2011	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	68	70	72
FY2012	74	76	78	80	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
FY2013	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	84	86	88
FY2014	90	92	94	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96
Monthly Average											5458 /12	+455

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: +455

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Date of Completion:

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1. Name of eligibility change: Transitional Payments

2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2007

3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Nebraska replaced the single transitional grant with up to five transitional grants, each being equal to 1/5 of the ADC payment standard for the family's size. These grants are available for families who:

1. Lost eligibility for a grant because of increased earnings or increased hours of employment of the parent or needy caretaker relative or guardian or conservator; (The parent or needy caretaker relative or guardian or conservator must be in the household.)
2. Meets the requirements to qualify for Transitional Medical Assistance.
3. Must have been eligible for an ADC grant in the month immediately preceding the first month of eligibility for the transitional grant.

In order to continue to receive transitional grants for the full five-month period, the family must meet the following requirements:

- a. The family's earned income cannot exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level for the family's size;
- b. The parent or needy caretaker relative or guardian or conservator must be employed;
- c. The family continues to reside in the State of Nebraska;
- d. The family must continue to include a dependent child;
- e. The family must remain ineligible to receive an ADC grant.

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4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form:

An average of 701 cases per month are transitional grant cases. These cases are included in our caseload counts on the ACF-199. The single transitional grant was not.

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FY2014	810	831	778	759	701	628	631	693	662	658	647	619
Monthly Average											8417 /12	701

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: +701

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Date of Completion:

State: Nebraska

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2015

1. Name of eligibility change: Time Limits

2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2007

3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Nebraska eliminated the state's time limit of 24 months within a 48 month period and adopted the federal 60 month lifetime limit.

ADC recipient families that include an adult or minor parent who meets the definition of a work-eligible individual are subject to the time limit, unless otherwise exempt.

Families subject to the time limit may receive an ADC cash payment for which they are eligible for a total of 60 months in a lifetime. The 60-month lifetime limit begins with the first month the family is determined to be eligible for and receives ADC cash assistance and includes any months of TANF benefits received in another state.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form)

During FFY2007, an average of 5 cases per month were closed due to the 24/48 month time limit. Under the new policy, these cases would now remain open. In FFY2014, an average of 4 cases closed per month due to the 60-month time limit. The net effect is a monthly increase of one case per month. The median length of time of assistance in September 2014 is 8 months. The typical (median) length of time is based on the total number of ADC months in a current spell. A current spell is the most recent number of consecutive months of ADC grant payments ending in the current month. Using the median length of time on assistance, once on assistance, these families are estimated to remain on for 8 months.

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FY2014	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	8	8	8
Monthly Average											68 /12	5.67

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: +5.67

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1. Name of eligibility change: Elimination of eligibility for LPRs in the US less than 5 years

2. Implementation date of eligibility change: July 1, 2011

3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:

Due to passage of Legislative Bill 465 by the Nebraska Legislature, Nebraska ceased paying state-funded Aid to Dependent Children benefits to Lawful Permanent Resident aliens who have resided in the United States for less than five years. This group lost eligibility for these state-funded benefits as of July 1, 2011. Eligibility for U.S. citizen children who were born to parents losing eligibility under LB 465 did continue.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form)

It is estimated that approximately 6 cases per year would be affected by this policy change, or .5 per month. The median length of time on assistance in September 2014 is 8 months. The typical (median) length of time is based on the total number of ADC months in a current spell. A current spell is the most recent number of consecutive months of ADC grant payments ending in the current month. Using the median length of time on assistance, once on assistance, these families are estimated to remain on for 8 months.

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FY2014	-0.5	-1.0	-1.5	-2	-2.5	-3	-3.5	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4
Monthly Average											-34 /12	-2.83

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -2.83

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PART 2 – Estimate of Caseload Reduction Credit

Nebraska		Fiscal Year to which credit applies:	2015
		Date of Completion:	11/18/2014
PART 2 – Estimate of Caseload Reduction Credit			
<u>Impact of All Changes</u>		<u>Caseload Reduction Calculation</u>	
Solely State Funded Program	-983	FY 2005 TANF Caseload	10,017
Standard of Need	455	FY 2005 SSP Caseload	2,330
Transitional Payments	701	Total FY 2005 Caseload	12,347
Time Limits	6	FY 2014 TANF Caseload	4,946
LPRs less than 5 years	-3	FY 2014 SSP Caseload	1,063
		Total FY 2014 Caseload	6,009
		Excess MOE Cases in FY 2014	1,652
		Adjusted FY 2014 Caseload	4,357
		Caseload Decline	7,990 64.7%
		Decline – Net Impact	8,166
		Caseload Reduction Credit =	64.7%
Net Impact	176		

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PART 3 -- Certification

I certify that we have provided the public an appropriate opportunity to comment on the estimates and methodology used to complete this report and considered those comments in completing it. Further, I certify that this report incorporates all reductions in the caseload resulting from State eligibility changes and changes in Federal requirements since Fiscal Year 2005.

(signature)

Kim Collins

(name)

Program Analysis & Research Administrator, Financial Services Division

(title)